HYBRIDIZING - Harry Goulding

As I remember the A.H.S. was formed at Palm Beach in the spring of 1950 from an idea originating in the State Nurseryman's Association, the membership dominatly commercial plant people and a few hard core amateur horticultural visionaries with the one purpose of overcoming the confusion of hibiscus names as associated with plant merchandising and collection of named cultivars. However, there was present then I am sure that spiritually guided controlling factor, the simple love of hibiscus.

The art of cross pollenation was not unknown in this original group but was certainly secondary to nomenclature, sales promotion, fertilizer, insecticides, grafting, and the *"Fun in The Sun"* we enjoy as an organized group.

Some fifteen years ago I was not expressly surprised when a Miami lady told me she had made diligent effort without avail to set seed on hibiscus. This last Sunday I was shocked to hear almost the same statement from a local chapter officer. Admitedly seed making is difficult in the open garden during hot summer months and colder days of winter but relatively easy in the fall and spring, as the actual mechanics of crossing hibiscus are simple, involving only the transfer of pollen from one flower to another, and the observation of a few essentials associated with light, heat, timing, and heredity. The hybridization committee is very anxious that all members of our organization enjoy not only the cordial fellowship of the society and the pleasure of growing and exhibiting bloom, but that also you receive that fullest enjoyment in creating your first or your hundredth seedling.

In 1965, when First Vice President, Ralph Philo, began his special effort to promote

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